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Front Page Edit Page Other Page

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Communist Issue Refuses to Stay Buried

The Communist issue, excepting for a brief flareup over the Alger Hiss case brought about by former President Harry S. Truman who is still trying to shield his administration from the Red stain, has escaped political controversy so far in the campaign.

Seemingly it has been assigned to a quiet tomb by both presidential candidates, or at least Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic nominee, has taken it upon himself to speak also for President Eisenhower.

At the time he repudiated Mr. Truman for his defense of Alger Hiss, Mr. Stevenson said he went along with Mr. Eisenhower in agreeing that Communism was no longer an issue in the United States.

But still the specter of Communism raises its deceitful head. There are certain people who will not let it rest. Among these is Rep. Francis E. Walter, chairman of the House Committee on un-American Activities.

The American people owe a tremendous debt to these congressmen who, at great political peril and even personal danger, have carried on the fight.

Many of these individuals have suffered under typical Communist smears and attempts at character assassination.

It is on record that despite the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other security agencies spotlighted the Communist penetration of our government, the executive branch of government did little to interrupt the Red operatives until congressional committees exposed the conspiracy.

It is quite evident that the onus for action still rests with the Congress which in the last two decades not only has exposed the Communist party as a conspiracy to overthrow our government but has passed laws to deal with the situation.

It is only natural that the Communists would writhe under the impact of these laws and attempt to get them changed or wiped out.

But the relentless battle against Communism has gone on in the legislative branch, despite the smears and the propaganda.

A notable contribution has just been made to it by the House Committee on un-American Activities. The committee has just published the first volume of a symposium entitled, "Soviet Total War, Historic Mission of Violence and Deceit." The second volume is to be issued in another week.

The symposium is the work of noted persons who have been in close contact with Communism and its work. Such men as Allen W. Dulles, chief of the Central Intelligence agency; J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Whitaker Chambers, a former Communist spy, contributed to the work.

It is as Representative Walter says in a foreword to the symposium:

"We find that the 120 contributors do not suffer from false illusions. In the Communist threat, they clearly see the greatest danger that the free world has ever had to face. They unmask its deceptions and subterfuges—its relentless psychological, political, economic, sociological and military strategies. . . . They are fully aware that in hoping for peace we cannot permit ourselves to be frozen into extinction as free men. Unless we meet the total challenge of Communist unconventional war, we shall assuredly condemn ourselves to the Arctic hell of Siberian slave labor camps. There is no third way: either we prevent the achievement of Communism's 'historic mission'—or we perish."

We think that the presidential candidates owe it to the American people to speak out on this issue. The American people want to know what they think. Each candidate should devote a major address to the Communist menace, both as it exists nationally and internationally.